# **PROPOSAL FOR:**

# LEGISLATIVE AND LOBBYING CONSULTING SERVICES



RFP #06-48 January 6, 2006

# Offered by:

Meyers & Associates
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#### **Qualifications and Experience:**

Meyers & Associates is a twelve member, full service, non-partisan government relations firm that has operated in the same location since January of 1981. The firm is appreciative of the opportunity to offer this proposal for representation in Washington, D.C. and the State of Texas. We are eager to assist the City of College Station in implementing an enhanced federal and state government relations strategy, working in partnership with city officials and personnel. This proposal is focused on the 2006 calendar year and suggests an option for a three-year extension.

Our firm, having represented clients in Washington since 1981 including cities for the past thirteen years, has the experience to assist the City in developing a complete and detailed strategic plan building on the City's past governmental activities on the federal and state level. Representing five cities located in two states, and universities in five states, including the Texas A&M University System, Meyers & Associates has the experience to not only properly advise the City on its state and federal activities, but also actively assist the City broadening its visibility in Austin and Washington. Our goal will be to strengthen the performance of the City's efforts in Austin and Washington, and we will meet that goal in a cost effective manner.

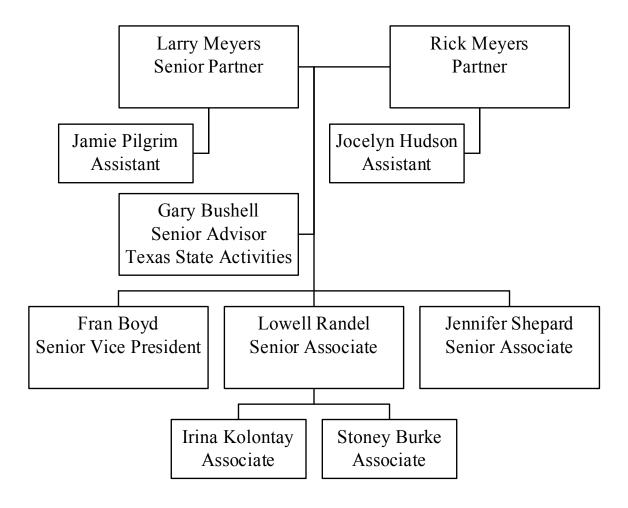
The philosophy of our firm is to develop a partnership with our clients, while providing the expertise in government relations, strategic planning and the day-to-day "eyes and ears" in Austin and Washington. A partnership is truly beneficial to our clients because it helps them succeed in being prepared to <u>predict</u> and <u>affect</u> government activities.

Grassroots lobbying has proven to be one of Meyers & Associates most effective lobbying tools. We believe that our clients must stay actively involved with the state and federal governments through proper communication and direct interaction. This can be a highly effective program with adequate planning, coordination and information.

The primary responsibility for fulfilling this offer of service to the City of College Station shall rest with Larry D. Meyers, and Richard (Rick) L. Meyers in Washington, D.C. and Gary Bushell in Austin, Texas. However, all members of the staff will always be at the City's disposal. In addition, the City's officials and senior staff will have access to the office facilities of Meyers & Associates, located just two blocks from the U.S. Capitol. Gary Bushell's Austin office is located two and a half blocks west of the State Capitol in the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) Building. The TAC Building has conference and reception room facilities that would be available for City functions.

#### **Organizational Chart**

# **Meyers & Associates**



#### Larry D. Meyers

Senior Partner, has over 33 years of experience since coming to Washington with Senator Lloyd Bentsen (D-TX), former Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, and former chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. After four years with the senator, serving as legislative director, he received an appointment in the Carter Administration being named Deputy Director for Congressional Affairs - U.S. Department of Agriculture, responsible for both USDA and White House lobbying activities. He began independent consulting in 1981, and in 1989 was named by <u>Beacham's Guide to Key Lobbyists</u> as one of the top 125 lobbyists out of the several thousand in Washington. For the last 14 years, he has served as guest lecturer at the National Defense University and, more recently at the Foreign Service Institute, American University and the Bush School of Public Affairs on the topic of "Lobbyists and Lobbying in the U.S. Capitol".

#### Richard (Rick) L. Meyers

Partner, joined the firm in 1987 and has 17 years of legislative and regulatory experience. He has worked extensively on issues affecting cities and universities with the U.S. Congress, Department of Transportation, Department of Agriculture, Justice Department, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Energy, Department of Education, Federal Aviation Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency. He has also worked with the officials at the U.S. Army Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center on product promotion. His activities on behalf of clients include university research grants, appropriations, education issues, transportation reauthorization, infrastructure funding for cities, base closure issues, telecommunication issues, HUD grants, and product promotion. He is a graduate of Texas Tech University.

#### **Gary Bushell**

Senior Advisor, has more than 30 years experience working with legislative bodies, including the United States Congress and Texas Legislature. Formerly Administrative Assistant (i.e. Chief of Staff in today's terminology) and Legislative Director to U.S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen, Gary has been in private practice doing public policy law in Austin for 5 years. For the 13 previous years he was involved in regional economic development efforts in Texas. Gary is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin with a BA in Economics and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas Law School. After serving with the 1st Marine Division in Vietnam, Gary was honorable discharged from the United States Marine Corps at the rank of captain.

#### Francis (Fran) James Boyd, Jr.

Senior Vice President, joined the firm in 1990 after serving as Director of Congressional and Public Affairs for the Farm Credit Administration, an independent federal financial regulatory agency. Prior to that appointment, he was the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs for six years during the Reagan Administration at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He brings to the firm over 20 years of Washington experience having worked extensively with Congress and at the highest levels of the executive branch of government. He holds both a graduate and undergraduate degrees from Arizona State University, and has completed the Senior Managers in Government Program from the Kennedy School for Government at Harvard University.

#### Jennifer Shepard

Associate. Prior to relocating to the greater Washington, D.C. area, Jennifer served as the program manager and executive for the leading business advocacy organization in Houston, Texas. Jennifer was responsible for managing the multiple aspects of the organization's air quality program designed to bring the region into attainment with the federal ozone standard as required by the federal Clean Air Act. She worked extensively with local, state and federal elected officials as well as state and federal regulatory agencies. Jennifer was also instrumental in the creation and ongoing management of a statewide public/private sector coalition to advance the development of a major national infrastructure project. She was heavily involved in the development of federal legislation

to facilitate the project's development. As a result of addressing both environmental and transportation issues affecting the fourth largest metropolitan area in the country, she has developed a keen understanding of the relationship between environmental policies and transportation programs. Jennifer has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of William and Mary and a Consulting Associate degree from Main Event Management, Inc.

#### Irina Kolontay

Associate, Irina joined the firm in 2002. Irina's responsibilities for the firm include working with congress and federal agencies on issues pertaining to defense energy, and homeland security research, emergency responder funding and training, surface transportation programs for cities, higher education policy, and health care grants. Additionally, Irina serves as the firm's in-house systems administrator. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from West Texas A&M University. While in college, Irina served as president of Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) chapter and received Student Organization President of the Year award during her senior year. She continues her involvement with the organization and serves on the SIFE Business Advisory Board. Irina was raised in the former Soviet republic of Belarus and is fluent in Russian and Belarussian.

#### **Stoney Burke**

Associate, Stoney joined the firm in 2003. Prior to joining the firm, he worked for the International Agriculture Programs Office at Texas A&M University. While there, he worked with USAID and USDA on food aid programs. He received a B.A. in International Studies from Texas A&M. He also studied Spanish at the Universidad de Salamanca in Salamanca, Spain. Stoney's activities on behalf of the firm's clients include working with federal agencies to increase the knowledge base of grants available to cities.

#### **Experience (cont.)**

In the past thirty-six months, Meyers & Associates has assisted the City of Lubbock with federal funding for a major highway project; the City of San Angelo with base closure assistance and major funding for new on base affordable housing construction and the development of the West Texas Legislative Conference; the City of Las Cruces, New Mexico with federal funding for a new federal court House, the City of McAllen with Presidential Permits and Diplomatic Notes for a major new border crossing, the City of Brownsville with federal permits and funding for a new major rail facility and the City of Corpus Christi with water supply and economic development funding from the federal government (described below).

As required by the RFP, the following are five examples of Meyers & Associates legislative activities. We chose both federal and state examples demonstrating 1) a new initiative proposed by our firm resulting in a major new program for Texas A&M and the College Station community; 2) an example of assisting a city with a serious water

shortage situation program; and 3) affordable housing; 4) infrastructure improvement; and 5) transportation.

Additional examples of success are available.

#### 1) A New Initiative

Our firm has represented the Texas A&M Research Foundation in Washington for over 18 years. Our work in 2005 is credited with helping bring over \$158 million in congressionally approved research projects to the System components in Texas.

A strong example of our firm's innovation and legislative success came during the development of the Homeland Security Act. Shortly after the attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup>, we engaged the Texas A&M Research Foundation in a strategic planning process on how the university community could play an important role in homeland security. After meeting with key members of Congress, we envisioned the concept of university centers of excellence for homeland security. We also worked with the University of California System and Cornell University in New York in this process.

We drafted a legislative proposal to create the National Integrative Center for Homeland Security, which was introduced by Rep. Kevin Brady as H.R. 4029, The National Integrative Center for Homeland Security Act of 2002. This legislation was introduced prior to the President's proposed legislation to create the Department of Homeland Security.

As Congress began working on the creation of the new department, we began looking for creative ways to include our legislation into the Homeland Security Act. As this point, the Homeland Security Act contained no provisions for involving the university community. Being aware that the House Science Committee would be addressing the Homeland Security Act, we approached Rep. Joe Barton and asked him to offer H.R. 4029 as an amendment during committee consideration. Rep. Barton successfully included this language in the Science Committee.

Once the language was included in the Homeland Security Act by the Science Committee, we worked with the House's Select Committee on Homeland Security, as well as the Senate, to ensure that the language remained in the bill. Finally, after a lengthy process of fighting off various amendments, the language was passed by both the House and Senate and signed into law.

We then worked closely with the Department of Homeland Security on implementation of the newly created program. Working with the congressional members of the Texas delegation, we organized a visit to Texas A&M by high-ranking DHS officials to showcase A&M's capabilities in homeland security. Ultimately, Texas A&M, teaming with the University of California, was awarded an \$18 million DHS University Center of Excellence in the area of foreign animal and zoonotic disease to be located in College Station.

# 2). Water Supply Crisis (Infrastructure and Economic Development and Environmental Mitigation

The City of Corpus Christi faced a serious water supply shortage due to drought and their major supply, the federally constructed Choke Canyon Dam and Reservoir only producing 65% of its federally projected supply. Our firm proposed to the City that legislation be developed to defer the City's required payments to the Bureau of Reclamation for the construction of Choke Canyon, and utilize the resulting savings (approximately \$25 million) to develop new water supplies in East Texas. Working together, the legislation was developed, introduced into Congress and became law. With passage of the federal legislation, we also assisted the City with the necessary permits and approvals in Austin for the construction of a pipeline from East Texas to Corpus Christi to supply a major new source of water for the city. We have also assisted the City with authorization legislation and federal funding for a \$60 million channel to the Gulf of Mexico providing environmental remediation for the Luguna Madre, seawall storm protection and improved transportation that has sparked major economic development on Padre Island as will as a second successful federal funding effort for economic development for the City's bay front development. We have represented the City for over 14 years

#### 3). Affordable Housing

In 2004, M&A assisted the City of Las Cruces, NM obtain a federal earmark for \$1 million dollars which provided funding to educate low income families in the area about how to apply for and obtain mortgage financing for homes.

#### 4). Homeland Security and Infrastructure Improvements

In 2005 Gary Bushell, working for the South Texas Military Facilities Task Force and the North Bay Military Task Force, was able to obtain a commitment of \$50 million from the Texas Enterprise Fund for infrastructure improvements to support military bases in South Texas and other state incentives to support the military bases. This grant required the approval of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives. A reference on this effort is Secretary of State J. Roger Williams, phone (512) 463-5770/fax (512) 475-2761. (See attachment, page 19)

#### 5). Transportation

In representing The Alliance for I-69 Texas, Gary Bushell advised that organization to support the Trans Texas Corridor (TTC) concept when Governor Rick Perry proposed it in January 2002. The Alliance was the first organization in Texas to support TTC at a hearing before the Texas Transportation Commission February 19, 2002. The I-69 route was declared by TxDOT one of four priority routes in June of 2002. Gary Bushell worked closely with Texas Transportation Commissioners and staff to help enact HB 3588 in 2003 and HB 2702 in 2005 to give TxDOT the needed flexibility and financing tools necessary to make TTC a reality. In December of 2005 Governor Perry announced that TxDOT would issue a request for proposals (RFP) for comprehensive development agreement (CDA) proposals to build TTC-69 in early 2006. A reference on this project is

Transportation Commission Chairman Ric Williamson, phone (512) 305-9509/fax (512) 475-3072. (See attached letter from Governor Rick Perry to Texas Transportation Commission Chairman Richard Williamson – page 22.)

Meyers & Associates represents the Alliance for I-69 Texas and worked closely with TxDOT and the Texas Congressional delegation to successfully ensure that the 2005 federal highway bill contained the necessary authorizing language to comply with Texas authorities.

#### **Unique Characteristics of Our Firm**

Meyers & Associates particular expertise is representing cities and universities in both Washington and Austin, and this is proven by its demonstrated stability of representing multiple cities and universities for well over a decade. This experience will be a key asset to the City of College Station. Our firm is unique in having represented the Texas A&M Research Foundation for over 18 years. This has necessitated many trips to College Station making the City familiar to us. In addition, our firm having the same location since 1981, our president, Larry Meyers having been in Washington over 34 years and our four top executives having worked together a minimum of 15 years makes Meyers & Associates unique among government relations firms.

#### **Rates and Expenses**

Meyers & Associates is compensated by its clients on a flat fee basis with billing done on monthly basis, plus expenses. Invoices are due on receipt. Expenses include taxi, telephone, facsimile, copying, delivery and lunches and dinner briefings for government decision-makers and staff as allowable under the state and federal regulations and guidelines. For this contract, it is estimate the fee will be \$12,000 with expense capped at \$1,500 a month, excluding airfare. This total will not be exceeded without advanced approval of the client, allowing College Station to plan for and control its expenses. It is noted that the RFP calls for a fee negotiation, and this is acceptable to Meyers & Associates – we will meet or underbid any serious, experienced competition. It is our serious intent to assist the City by saving it money when compared with past representation. A 3% cost of living adjustment each year is requested.

#### **Methodology of Representation**

In fulfilling the requirements of this RFP, Meyers & Associates will:

- 1. Work closely with the City Council, City Manager, and key staff to develop a detailed strategic plan, to be referred to as the City of College Station State and Federal Legislative Program, for acquiring appropriations and funding for the City of College Station.
- 2. A minimum of two (2) meetings will be held in College Station to assist in the development of the City's State and Federal Legislative Program. Status updates will be presented to the City Council on a semi-annual basis and as-needed or required throughout the term of the Contract
- 3. Meyers & Associates will identify state and federal grant opportunities; assist in the drafting of funding/grant applications in collaboration with the City, which addresses specific funding needs of the City; monitor and facilitate the progress of funding/grant applications through appropriate state and federal agencies on behalf of the City, when requested.
- 4. Assist the City in the preparation of appropriations requests and required subcommittee forms.
- 5. Identify and aggressively act to obtain funding for the City of College Station projects.
- 6. Review on a continuing basis all existing and proposed federal policies, programs, and legislation. Identify those issues that may affect the City or its citizens, and regularly inform the City on these matters. Provide legal and legislative expertise and consulting services.
- 7. Review the legislative policy statements adopted by the Texas Municipal League, National League of Cities and other local governments and lobbying groups for the purpose of identifying issues which may either positively or negatively affect the City.
- 8. Identify other state and federal legislation of interest to the City, monitor action on these initiatives, and advocate the City's interest when appropriate.
- 9. Monitor state and federal legislative committee meetings, agency hearings and meetings prior to and during the regular and special legislative session(s) at which specific issues with the City's adopted Legislative Program are considered, as well as other issues that may arise that affect the City.

- 10. Work with the City Council, City Manager and designated staff to develop special or general legislation in keeping with, or supportive of, the City adopted Legislative Program.
- 11. Develop and evaluate strategy for the support, opposition, or amendment of pending legislation.
- 12. Testify and lobby before State and Federal legislative and appropriations committees as necessary on behalf of the City, during the annual legislative session, extended, or special session(s) and at legislative committee meetings.
- 13. Appear and testify before agency hearings, rule making proceedings and other administrative agency or legislative meetings, as required, to promote, oppose, and seek passage of legislation affecting the City or its citizens, and specific legislation contained in the City's Legislative Program.
- 14. Coordinate appointments or meetings between the City Council, other designated individuals, and Congressional leaders.
- 15. Assist the City in drafting any needed letters to State and Federal Congressional leaders regarding issues of interest and concern to the City of College Station.
- 16. Provide written monthly updates and quarterly status reports on the firm's achievements as they relate to the goals and objectives set forth in the City's Legislative Program.
- 17. Supply other required reports including, but not necessarily be limited to, personal briefings and information bulletins pertinent to any legislation, rules, or regulations and other State or Federal policies or programs that affect the City and its citizens either directly or indirectly.
- 18. While the Legislature is in Session, supply a written summary report at the end of each week detailing legislative action taken during the week, status of legislative issues, anticipated action for the upcoming week, and suggestion action that City staff or elected officials may implement.
- 19. Supply a written report that summarizes the status of the City's Legislative Program within one (1) week of the closing of a legislative session and a more detailed final written report on specific legislation and new requirements affecting the City within a reasonable time period, not to exceed thirty (30) days from the close of session.
- 20. When the legislature is not in session, provide periodic reports (at least monthly) on issues of interest or concern to the City. Such information may include, but not necessarily limited to: action taken at interim committee meetings, rule making hearings, status of studies underway, and advance notice of legislation being proposed.

The principle responsibility for this work shall rest with Larry Meyers, Gary Bushell and Rick Meyers, however all members of the firm may be assigned a portion of the responsibility.

To avoid duplication of effort, it is requested that City of College Station appoint one or two individuals as key contacts to work directly with Meyers & Associates. Quite often information must be supplied or requested from Washington on an immediate basis. However, calls from multiple sources would paralyze even the largest Washington firm. The City shall make every effort to fully inform Meyers & Associates of its interests in federal and state issues.

Meyers & Associates views the work of representing a city before the government as a year-around effort. Accordingly, we proposed the following general work plan:

#### **September to Early December**

The City would survey its key areas and solicit proposals for presentation in Washington, both for congressional earmarks and for competitive grants. It is critical the City maintain a strong mission focus regarding its areas of strength, seek input from the Texas congressional delegation concerning areas they would like to see help the City and the State of Texas. The focus should be on both traditional congressional earmarks and locating new program funding opportunities within the federal agencies. A similar effort should be undertaken for the state when the legislature is to be in session.

Principals of Meyers & Associates can travel to the City in order to meet with key individuals in order to more fully explain the Washington process and better understand the abilities and assets of the City.

Key congressional staff from the Texas congressional delegation should be invited for tours of the city to review key areas of need.

By the first of December, key officials of the City should have compiled one-page descriptions of projects proposed for federal funding.

#### January to Mid-February

Meyers & Associates together with key city officials would review the proposed initiatives, re-write for simplicity and clarity if necessary, and begin to assign priority based on feasibility. This can be done during meetings here or in Texas.

#### Mid-February to April

City representatives, assisted by Meyers & Associates, would visit with members of Congress and key staff to present initiatives requesting funding. Special attention should be taken when presenting initiatives targeted to congressional members, making sure the correct committee jurisdiction is involved to maximize funding possibilities. Care should be taken that the congressman representing College Station, as well as both Senators

receives initiatives for funding. Initiatives more suited to agency competitive funding should be delivered to the correctly targeted agencies.

#### May, June, July

Follow-up work by city officials and Meyers & Associates with key congressional offices to ensure that proper funding requests are made and the information flow is complete within each congressional office. Efforts must be maximized to ensure that each congressional office has the necessary information to accompany each funding request.

<u>The City of College Station Day in Washington</u> should be continued to ensure that the congressional delegation and key administration officials are aware of the needs and / or abilities of the City. At a minimum, the day should consist of:

- •Key officials from the City come to Washington
- •Meetings are held with key congressional members
- •A luncheon held for key members or staff
- •Continued meetings on Capitol Hill or with agencies
- •Dinner or reception with congressional delegation and/or key staff
- •Meetings with regulatory and agency officials or members to continue the next morning (if necessary).

This event should be an annual or, at the minimum, an every-other-year event in order to keep the abilities and ambitions of the City in front of the congressional delegation and the agency decision-makers. It can also be useful in training City personnel on the processes of Washington. A similar process can be useful in Austin.

#### August, September, October

Information on funding decisions will be forthcoming from Congress and the agencies, and work will be necessary to ensure the detail of each funded initiative. The August congressional recess and the fall are also good times to bring congressional staff to the city for informative tours.

#### All Year

A team of city representatives and Meyers & Associates representatives should broaden the City's efforts to meet with funding decision makers within each of the federal agencies inquiring about future funding opportunities and informing those decision makers of the needs and / or abilities of the City.

It is important to note that such efforts can be focused on funding decisions as much as two years in advance in order to position the City for future proposals, and inform the federal agencies of the abilities of the City.

Meyers & Associates has completed this yearlong strategy for several universities and cities, and can report significant success. The process can train both the City personnel

and the congressional delegation of the proper steps and proposals for successful interaction with the state and federal government.

#### **References:**

Mr. Dick Ribbontrop, Chief of Staff Mr. James Christoferson, Ass't Leg. Dir The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison United States Senate Building 284 Russell Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 202.224.5922 fax: 0776

james christoferson@hutchison.senate.gov

The Honorable John Carter **United States Congress** 408 Cannon House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515 202.225.3864 fax: 5886 ryan.henry@mail.house.gov

Ms. Heather Couri, Chief of Staff The Honorable Joe Barton 2109 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 202.225.2002 fax: 3052 heather.couri@mail.house.gov

The Honorable Loyd Neal Past Mayor City of Corpus Christi Post Office Box 640 Corpus Christi, TX 78469-9277 361.880.3101 fax: 361 698 3091 Claudia.lobell@hrh.com

Dr. Edward A. Hiler Past Vice Chancellor Texas A&M University System College Station, TX 77843 979.845.4747 e-hiler@tamu.edu

The Honorable Chet Edwards (Congressman for College Station) **United States Congress** 2459 Rayburn House Office Washington, DC 20515 202.225.6105 fax: 0350 Chris Chwastyk, Chief of Staff chris.chwastyk@mail.house.gov

Mr. Pete Olson, Chief of Staff The Honorable John Cornyn 517 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 202.224.2934 fax: 202.228.2856 peter olson@cornyn.senate.gov

Mr. Lawrence Olsen **Executive Vice President** Texas Good Roads/Transportation A 1122 Colorado Street, Suite 205 Austin, Texas 78701 512.478.9351 lolsen@tgrta.com

Mr. Ed Perez. Director Federal Government Relations Office of State & Federal Relations 122 C Street, NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20001 202.638.3927 eperez@osfr.state.tx.us

Mr. Bill Summers, President Rio Grande Valley Partnership Post Office Box 1499 Weslaco, TX 78599 800.369.2816 bsummers@rgv.rr.com

#### **References for Specific Projects:**

**John Williams**, Past Manager Canadian River Municipal River Authority. P.O. Box 99, Sanford, Texas 79078, 806.865.3325

Successfully assisted the River Authority in preparation and successful passage of two separate legislative efforts, one for the suspension of payments to the Bureau of Reclamation for a water supply project (Lake Meredith) and to transfer ownership of the water distribution system from the federal government to the local water authority. Efforts resulted in substantial savings (\$5 million) for the several communities served by the water authority. Representation ceased upon completion of the legislation and successful implementation of the new laws.

**Tom Utter**, Former Assistant City Manager, City of Corpus Christi, 1201 Leopard, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Corpus Christi, TX 78401, 361.815.0813

Successful completion of legislation for 5 year suspension of payments to the Bureau of Reclamation for the Choke Canyon Dam and Reservoir municipal water supply facility. Effort resulted cost savings (\$22 million) sufficient for the City to finance a new water supply and pipeline.

**George Ramon**, Manager, Anzalduas International Crossing, P.O. Box 399, Hidalgo, TX, 78557, 956.843.2471

Anzalduas is a new bridge crossing on the Mexican Border and is owned by the cities of McAllen, Hidalgo and Mission. Meyers & Associates successfully assisted the client in negotiations with the Mexican government and the U.S. State Department resulting in the successful exchange of diplomatic notes between the two countries. Our service included preparation of the draft diplomatic notes.

**Dr. Sandra Dowling**, Maricopa County School Superintendent, 301 W. Jefferson St., Phoenix, AZ 85003, 602.506-3661

Assisted the school district in securing \$500,000 – a one-time appropriation effort -- for the Pappas School for homeless children.

#### Conclusion

With Meyers & Associates, the City of College Station will gain:

- stability we have been in business in the same location since 1981, half of our clients have been with us over ten years and four of our twelve employees have been with the company for over 15 years;
- a strategic location we are located on Capitol Hill, just two blocks from the U.S. Capitol;
- expertise we have represented cities in for ten years and universities in for over eighteen;
- a partner we recommend a teamwork strategy working with you and the Texas congressional delegation, fully keeping the City leadership involved in the strategy development and day to day activities;
- added value we have represented the Texas A&M Research Foundation for over 18 years, and represent both the Alliance for I-69 Texas and the Gulf Coast Strategic Highway Coalition;
- competitive pricing we will work with you to under-price the competition and stay within your budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this proposal.

## **Certification**

Meyers & Associates will comply with addenda issued by the City of College Station and will sign the City's Standard Form of Agreement.

The undersigned affirms that they are duly authorized to execute this contract, that this RFP has not been prepared in collusion with any other firm, and that the contents of this RFP have not been communicated to any other firm prior to the official opening of this RFP. Additionally, the undersigned affirms that the firm is willing to sign the enclosed Standard Form of Agreement (if applicable).

| Signed By:   | 1 itle: President                     |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Typed Name: <u>Larry Meyers</u>                    | Company Name: Meyers & Associates     |  |
| Phone No.: (202) 484-2773                          | Fax No.: (202) 484-0770               |  |
| Email: <u>larry.meyers@meyersandassociates.com</u> |                                       |  |
| Address: 412 First St., SE Suite One Street        | Washington, DC 20003  City, State Zip |  |
| Federal Tax ID No.: <u>541535184</u>               |                                       |  |
| Date: January 6, 2006                              |                                       |  |



#### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY GOVERNOR

August 5, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi Chairman 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission 2521 Jefferson Davis Highway Arlington, Virginia 22202

#### Dear Chairman Principi:

I would like to take the opportunity to share with you and your colleagues a viable alternative to the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission's recent vote to add Naval Air Station Oceana (NASO) to the proposed closure list. I am confident that Texas can provide you the best location for all assets associated with a Navy Master Jet Base. As the BRAC Commission considers Texas as part of its review of NASO, I would like to bring to your attention the current and future military value that a South Texas location would bring, not only to the US Navy but also to the joint warfighting, training, and readiness for all of this country's military forces.

The state is partnering with the South Texas Coastal Bend Defense Community to support an expanded military presence in South Texas and to provide the Department of Defense (DOD) with enhanced operations and training space to support ground, naval and air forces through a diversity of mission requirements to include the capability to surge in the event of national emergencies. We are very excited about this tremendous opportunity. We are prepared to support as many additional military personnel and their families as necessary in South Texas, and provide them with the operational space and quality of life to assure a ready and fully-trained military force.

Texas is prepared to make a significant offer to augment the already existing infrastructure and training areas available to the military missions at NAS Kingsville, NAS Corpus Christi, and NS Ingleside.

The Chief of Naval Air Training based at NAS Corpus Christi enjoys the availability of two unencumbered ranges: the 10,000 nautical square mile "Warning Area 228" range, which can support supersonic and tactical air maneuvering exercises over the Gulf, and the land-based McMullen Training Range. The State of Texas is prepared to provide support to expand the McMullen Training Range from its current size of 10,000 acres to 40,000 acres. The McMullen

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The Honorable Anthony J. Principi August 5, 2005 Page 2 of 4

Range is currently used by the Navy, Air National Guard and Air Force active and reserve forces with inert and electronic training and would support live ordnance. We are prepared to extend its capability to support an expanded aviation mission at Naval Air Station Kingsville.

The state is making available a \$50 million grant for the balance of the land acquisition and any required environmental studies, range development, infrastructure needs, or as a supplement to the MILCON program for expenses that may arise from a relocation of NASO.

Additionally, a key infrastructure need for the light and mobile transformed Army forces located at Fort Hood, Fort Sill, Fort Bliss, and Fort Carson is efficient access to joint training areas and surface Ports of Embarkation. The State is prepared to assist in the construction of new infrastructure to support these needs, including the addition of a rail spur from Union Pacific's main rail line to Naval Station Ingleside. The Texas Department of Transportation has agreed to build, manage and operate the spur and to allow the DOD unlimited use at no cost. The cost of this project is presently estimated to be \$15.2 million and is predicated on the continuing need for the Naval Station as part of an expanded military mission in South Texas. These funds are in addition to the \$5.2 million investment already committed to the expansion of the deployment rail capability at the strategic seaport at the Port of Corpus Christi.

Texas has also recently made a \$457.5 million commitment to transportation infrastructure improvements in and around the surrounding counties of NAS Kingsville. Further, the state is committed to any additional identified transportation infrastructure expansions deemed necessary on and around NAS Kingsville and will commit to another \$100 million for the expansion of Chapman Ranch Road.

I am also pleased to provide the local defense community a \$200 million loan fund financed by the sale of State of Texas General Obligation bonds. A loan from this fund would be used by the local defense community to support the infrastructure and facility needs of the Navy and the defense community. Such a loan could augment the limited MILCON funding available early in the BRAC implementation process, and allow for the expedited planning and construction of infrastructure and facilities at NAS Kingsville.

Texas is pleased to provide these incentives for national defense purposes. The total package of new grants, infrastructure and loans is approximately \$365 million.

Mr. Chairman, the South Texas Coastal Bend Defense Community has no encroachment issues, no environmental issues, unrivaled operational air space and the ability to expand our already exemplary public/private family housing initiatives to meet DOD needs. Simply put, South Texas is Navy Country and we invite you and your colleagues to come and see for yourselves.

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi August 5, 2005 Page 3 of 3

We look forward to working with the BRAC Commission and DOD to achieve our common objectives.

If we can assist you with any questions you may have regarding the state's resources available to help with the DOD's decision to relocate NAS Oceana, please contact my deputy chief of staff, Phil Wilson, by phone at 512/463-9490, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:pwilson@governor.state.tx.us">pwilson@governor.state.tx.us</a>.

Sincerely,

Rick Perry

Governor

RP:jek

**Enclosures** 

cc: The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Gordon R. England, Secretary of the Navy

Admiral Mike Mullen, Chief of Naval Operations

General Daniel James III, Director, Air National Guard

**BRAC Commission Members** 

United States Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn

United States Congressmen Solomon P. Ortiz, Ruben Hinojosa, Henry Cuellar and Lloyd Doggett

Texas State Senators Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, Judith Zaffirini, Ph.D., and Eddie Lucio Texas State Representatives Gene Seaman, Vilma Luna, Abel Herrero, Juan Escobar, and Yvonne Gonzales Toureilles

Texas Department of Transportation Commissioners

Michael W. Behrens, P.E., Executive Director, Texas Department of Transportation The Honorable Loyd Neal, Chairman, South Texas Military Facilities Task Force Adjutant General Charles Rodriguez, Texas National Guard

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## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY GOVERNOR

December 9, 2005

The Honorable Richard F. Williamson Chairman Texas Transportation Commission 125 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Chairman Williamson:

I have always supported the Interstate-69 corridor. It is a key strategic corridor for Texas and the nation. However, years of limited federal funding and procedural obstructions have delayed its development.

In 2002, when U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Mineta asked me to recommend a project for the president's environmental streamlining pilot project, I immediately proposed the entire length of I-69 through Texas. Because of this action, the I-69 study is quickly approaching the halfway point and we should have some tier one environmental documents to review by this summer.

The financial challenge has proven to be the largest obstruction to building I-69. Cities and counties along the corridor, our congressional delegation, and others have all tried their best to bring meaningful federal dollars into the project, but the results fall short of what is needed. The reason is simple — there is no money. Not only does Texas get shortchanged in our federal rate of return on the gas taxes paid by Texans, the federal highway trust fund is showing signs of future insolvency.

Texans have never waited for Washington to address our challenges. Over the last five years we have worked with the Texas Legislature and our congressional delegation to develop a variety of new ways to build the infrastructure this state needs. We have passed three constitutional amendments, we re-wrote the transportation code, and we obtained the flexibility we need in federal law to complement our state plan. Texas is now positioned to tap the power and resources of the private sector.

With that in mind, I am directing the Texas Department of Transportation to take the follow actions:

Post Office Box 12428 Austin, Texas 78711 (512) 463-2000 (Voice)/Dial 7-1-1 For Relay Services

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi August 5, 2005 Page 3 of 3

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